

IN THE CLAIMS:

1-22. (Cancelled).

23. (Previously Presented) A computer readable medium storing instructions that when executed by a personal computer connected to a network are capable of causing the personal computer to:

display a meta-folder, wherein the meta-folder is a file system object that is associated with search criteria;

receive a command to open the meta-folder;

in response to receiving the command to open the meta-folder, initiate searching the network and the personal computer for conventional objects that satisfy the search criteria; and

display icons representing the conventional objects that result from the searching.

24. (Previously Presented) A computer readable medium of claim 23, wherein the network includes a local area network.

25. (Previously Presented) A computer readable medium of claim 23, wherein the network includes a wide area network.

26. (Previously Presented) A computer readable medium of claim 23, wherein the network includes the Internet.

27. (Previously Presented) A computer readable medium of claim 23, wherein the network includes a local area network, a wide area network or the Internet and the network includes a collection of storage systems for storing at least some of the conventional objects.

28. (Previously Presented) A computer readable medium of claim 23, wherein the network includes a local area network and a wide area network.

29. (Previously Presented) A computer readable medium of claim 23, wherein the network includes a local area network and the Internet.
30. (Previously Presented) A computer readable medium of claim 23, wherein the network includes a wide area network and the Internet.
31. (Previously Presented) A computer readable medium of claim 23, wherein the network includes a local area network, a wide area network and the Internet.
32. (Previously Presented) A computer readable medium of claim 23, wherein the network includes a user server connected to the personal computer.
33. (Previously Presented) A computer readable medium of claim 32, wherein the user server stores the meta-folder.
34. (Previously Presented) A computer readable medium of claim 33, wherein the user server stores at least some of the conventional objects.
35. (Previously Presented) A computer readable medium-of claim 32, wherein the user server is connected to the personal computer via a local area network.
36. (Previously Presented) A computer readable medium of claim 32, wherein the user server is connected to the personal computer via a wide area network.
37. (Previously Presented) A computer readable medium of claim 32, wherein the user server is connected to the personal computer via the Internet.
38. (Previously Presented) A computer readable medium of claim 32, wherein the user server is connected to a content server via the Internet.
39. (Previously Presented) A computer readable medium of claim 38, wherein the content server is a web-page server, an FTP server or a news server.
40. (Previously Presented) A computer readable medium of claim 32, wherein the user server is connected to a vendor server via the Internet.

41. (Previously Presented) A computer readable medium of claim 40, wherein the meta-folder is stored on the vendor server or the user server.
42. (Previously Presented) A computer readable medium of claim 40, wherein the vendor server includes a search engine or media products.
43. (Previously Presented) A computer readable medium of claim 40, wherein the vendor server includes media products including books, video tapes, DVDs, CDs and audio cassettes.
44. (Previously Presented) A computer readable medium of claim 23, wherein the instructions are further capable of causing the personal computer to initiate a transfer of the meta-folder from the user to another user via the network.
45. (Previously Presented) A computer readable medium of claim 44, wherein the transfer occurs through electronic mail.
46. (Previously Presented) A computer readable medium of claim 23, wherein the conventional objects include conventional folders, conventional files, electronic mail, notes, contact or address book items or files containing text, audio or video information.
47. (Previously Presented) A computer readable medium of claim 23, wherein the search criteria include wildcard characters.
48. (Previously Presented) A computer readable medium of claim 23, wherein the meta-folder includes indicia indicative of a search function.
49. (Previously Presented) A computer readable medium of claim 48, wherein the indicia is a magnifying glass.
50. (Previously Presented) A computer readable medium of claim 23, wherein the meta-folder includes descriptive text.
51. (Previously Presented) A computer readable medium of claim 50, wherein the descriptive text describes the search criteria.

52. (Previously Presented) A computer readable medium of claim 23, wherein the instructions are further capable of causing the personal computer to display the meta-folder, the icons representing the conventional objects and other objects on a single screen of the user interface.

53. (Previously Presented) A computer readable medium of claim 23, wherein the instructions are further capable of causing the personal computer to display the meta-folder, the icons representing the conventional objects and other objects in an intermingling manner on the user interface.

54. (Previously Presented) A computer readable medium of claim 23, wherein the conventional objects pertain to music.

55. (Previously Presented) A computer readable medium of claim 54, wherein the instructions are further capable of causing the personal computer to initiate playing the music.

56. (Previously Presented) A computer readable medium of claim 54, wherein the instructions are further capable of causing the personal computer to generate icons that indicate whether the music is owned or un-owned.

57. (Previously Presented) A computer readable medium of claim 54, wherein the instructions are further capable of causing the personal computer to initiate a purchase of the music.

58. (Previously Presented) A computer readable medium of claim 54, wherein the instructions are further capable of causing the personal computer to provide a link from which the user can purchase the music.

59. (Previously Presented) A computer readable medium storing instructions that when executed by a personal computer connected to a network are capable of causing the personal computer to:

display a meta-folder, wherein the meta-folder is a file system object that is associated with search criteria;

receive a command to open the meta-folder;

in response to receiving the command to open the meta-folder, initiate searching the personal computer, a local area network and the Internet for conventional objects that satisfy the search criteria; and

display icons representing the conventional objects that result from the searching.

60. (Previously Presented) A computer readable medium of claim 59, wherein the network includes a user server connected to the personal computer.

61. (Previously Presented) A computer readable medium of claim 60, wherein the user server stores the meta-folder.

62. (Previously Presented) A computer readable medium of claim 60, wherein the user server stores at least some of the conventional objects.

63. (Previously Presented) A computer readable medium of claim 60, wherein the user server is connected to the personal computer via the local area network.

64. (Previously Presented) A computer readable medium of claim 60, wherein the user server is connected to the personal computer via a wide area network.

65. (Previously Presented) A computer readable medium of claim 60, wherein the user server is connected to the personal computer via the Internet.

66. (Previously Presented) A computer readable medium of claim 60, wherein the user server is connected to a content server via the Internet.

67. (Previously Presented) A computer readable medium of claim 66, wherein the content server is a web-page server, an FTP server or a news server.

68. (Previously Presented) A computer readable medium of claim 60, wherein the user server is connected to a vendor server via the Internet.

69. (Previously Presented) A computer readable medium of claim 68, wherein the meta-folder is stored on the vendor server or the user server.

70. (Previously Presented) A computer readable medium of claim 68, wherein the vendor server includes a search engine or media products.

71. (Previously Presented) A computer readable medium of claim 68, wherein the vendor server includes media products including books, video tapes, DVDs, CDs and audio cassettes.

72. (Previously Presented) A computer readable medium of claim 59, wherein the instructions are further capable of causing the personal computer to display the meta-folder, the icons representing the conventional objects and other objects on a single screen of the user interface.

73. (Previously Presented) A computer readable medium of claim 59, wherein the instructions are further capable of causing the personal computer to display the meta-folder, the icons representing the conventional objects and other objects in an intermingling manner on the user interface.

74. (Previously Presented) A computer readable medium storing instructions that when executed by an enhanced device connected to a network are capable of causing the enhanced device to:

display a meta-folder containing a search object, wherein the meta-folder is a file system object that is associated with search criteria;

receive a command to open the meta-folder;

in response to receiving the command to open the meta-folder, initiate searching the network and the enhanced device for conventional objects that satisfy the search criteria; and

display icons representing the conventional objects that result from the searching.

75. (Previously Presented) A computer readable medium of claim 74, wherein the enhanced device is a personal digital assistant.

76. (Previously Presented) A computer readable medium of claim 75, wherein the instructions are further capable of causing the personal digital assistant to display the meta-folder, the icons representing the conventional objects and other objects in an intermingling manner on the user interface.

77. (Previously Presented) A computer readable medium of claim 74, wherein the enhanced device is a web-access enabled portable telephone.

78. (Previously Presented) A computer readable medium of claim 77, wherein the instructions are further capable of causing the web-access enabled portable telephone to display the meta-folder, the icons representing the conventional objects and other objects in an intermingling manner on the user interface.

79. (Previously Presented) A computer readable medium of claim 74, wherein the enhanced device is an audio player.

80. (Previously Presented) A computer readable medium of claim 79, wherein the instructions are further capable of causing the audio player to display the meta-folder, the icons representing the conventional objects and other objects in an intermingling manner on the user interface.

81. (Previously Presented) A computer readable medium storing instructions that when executed by a personal computer are capable of causing the personal computer to:

display a meta-folder, wherein the meta-folder is a file system object that is associated with search criteria;

receive a command to open the meta-folder;

in response to receiving the command to open the meta-folder, initiate searching for conventional objects that-satisfy the search criteria; and

display icons representing the conventional objects that result from the searching;

wherein the meta-folder includes a magnifying glass-shaped icon.

82. (Previously Presented) A computer readable medium of claim 81, wherein the magnifying glass-shaped icon is a sub-icon.

83. (Currently Amended) A computer readable medium of claim 81, wherein the magnifying glass-shaped icon indicates the existence of the search criteria object.

84. (Previously Presented) A computer readable medium of claim 81, wherein the magnifying glass-shaped icon is combined with a conventional object icon.

85. (Previously Presented) A computer readable medium of claim 81, wherein the magnifying glass-shaped icon is combined with a conventional folder icon.

86. (Previously Presented) A computer readable medium storing instructions that when executed by a personal computer are capable of causing the personal computer to:

display at least one meta-folder, wherein the meta-folder is a file system object,
wherein the meta-folder is associated with search criteria, whereupon
opening the meta-folder, a search is initiated for conventional objects that
satisfy the search criteria; and

display at least one conventional folder that statically points to at least one
conventional object;

wherein the meta-folder and the conventional folder appear together in the same
context of a single interface.

87. (Previously Presented) A computer readable medium of claim 86, wherein the context includes a window.

88. (Previously Presented) A computer readable medium of claim 86, wherein the context includes a window pane.

89. (Previously Presented) A computer readable medium of claim 86, wherein the context includes an icon bar.

90. (Previously Presented) A computer readable medium storing instructions that when executed by a personal computer are capable of causing the personal computer to:

display at least one meta-folder, wherein the meta-folder is a file system object that is associated with search criteria;

upon opening the meta-folder,

search for conventional objects that-satisfy the search criteria, and

display the search result conventional objects; and

display together with the search result conventional objects at least one static conventional object to which the meta-folder statically points.

91. (Previously Presented) A computer readable medium of claim 90, wherein at least one of the search result conventional objects and static conventional object are dragged and dropped into the meta-folder.

92. (Previously Presented) A computer program embodied on a computer readable storage medium comprising code executable to:

display an icon representing a search object along with one or more icons representing conventional objects in a window of a graphical user interface, wherein the search object defines a searching criteria;

initiate resolution of the search object by searching for additional conventional objects that satisfy the searching criteria; and

display the icons representing the one or more conventional objects along with icons representing the additional conventional objects that satisfy the searching criteria in the window of the graphical user interface.

93. (Previously Presented) The computer program of Claim 92 wherein initiating resolution of the search object is performed automatically after displaying the icon representing the search object.

94. (Previously Presented) A system comprising:

- a computerized system;

- a display unit controllable by the computerized system;

- wherein the computerized system is configured to:

- cause an icon representing a search object along with one or more icons representing conventional objects to be displayed in a window of the display unit, wherein the search object defines a searching criteria;

- initiate resolution of the search object by searching for additional conventional objects that satisfy the searching criteria; and

- cause the icons representing the one or more conventional objects along with icons representing the additional conventional objects that satisfy the searching criteria to be displayed in the window of the display unit.

95. (Previously Presented) The system of Claim 94 wherein the computerized system is configured to initiate resolution of the search object when the icon representing the search object is displayed in the window of the display unit.

96. (Previously Presented) A system comprising:

- a computerized system;

- a display unit controllable by the computerized system;

- wherein the computerized system is configured to:

- cause a meta-folder be displayed on the display unit, wherein the meta-folder is a file system object that is associated with search criteria;

receive a command to open the meta-folder;

in response to receiving the command to open the meta-folder, initiate searching
for conventional objects that satisfy the search criteria; and

cause icons representing the conventional objects to be displayed on the display
unit.

97. (Previously Presented) The system of Claim 96 wherein the meta-folder and the icons
representing the conventional objects are displayed within the context of a window on the
display unit.

98. (Previously Presented) The system of Claim 96 wherein the computerized system
includes a personal computer and an interface to the Internet, and wherein searching for
the conventional objects includes searching for conventional objects via the Internet.

99. (Previously Presented) The system of Claim 96, wherein the search object includes
wildcard characters.

100. (Previously Presented) The system of Claim 96, wherein the meta-folder includes
indicia indicative of a search function.

101. (Previously Presented) The system of Claim 100, wherein the indicia is a
magnifying glass.

102. (Previously Presented) A computer-implemented method comprising:

displaying a meta-folder, wherein the meta-folder is a file system object that is is
associated with search criteria;

receiving a command to open the meta-folder;

in response to receiving the command to open the meta-folder, initiating searching
the network and the personal computer for conventional objects that
satisfy the search criteria; and

displaying icons representing the conventional objects that result from the searching.

103. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 102, wherein the meta-folder and the icons representing the conventional objects are displayed in a single window.

104. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 102, wherein the network includes a local area network, a wide area network or the Internet and the network includes a collection of storage systems for storing at least some of the conventional objects.

105. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 102, wherein the instructions are further capable of causing the personal computer to initiate a transfer of the meta-folder from the user to another user via the network.

106. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 105, wherein the transfer occurs through electronic mail.

107. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 102, wherein the conventional objects include conventional folders, conventional files, electronic mail, notes, contact or address book items or files containing text, audio or video information.